

Christian Reflector.

H. A. GRAVES, Editors.

(VOL. 9.)

CHRISTIAN REFLECTOR,
A Religious and Family Newspaper,

PUBLISHED WEEKLY,

AT NO. 11 CORNHILL, BOSTON.

DARRELL, GRAVES & UPHAM, PROPRIETORS.

TERMS.—Two dollars in advance; \$2.50 after June 1st.

Subscribers in New England pay by mail, \$2.00 extra.

Seven copies to one direction, \$12.00 in advance; 13 copies, \$18.00.

Ministers who pay in advance, \$2.00 extra.

Or other savage customs; or were they limited to those districts of semi-civilization, where the traffic requires the tear of human flesh, we might not be horrified. But there has been acting against principles, turned at the very slurs of the Papists. Through agents there are communications and payments to the Priests, in Boston. Arrangements will be made to forward to the Clergy.

Concerning Agents, Proprietors or Editors, to secure attention, must be paid post.

Efficient Agents wanted for the paper, to whom a liberal commission will be allowed.

The Editors' Table.

SONGS.—*Memoranda of mine: sweet solaces of daily life; Gentle comrades, kind advisors; who can worth your? (Marie Flurguer Tupper.)*

MEMOIR OF MRS. SARAH LOUISA TAYLOR; or, an illustration of the work of the Holy Spirit. By Lot Jones, A. M. This memoir of a lady of genius, of eminent experience and piety, was first published in 1838, and has already reached a fourth edition, a sufficient proof of its acceptance to the Christian public. It is issued in a neat, cheap form, and is well adapted to do good. The memory of the sainted dead, it conveys to us lessons of interest and piety, cannot be too carefully preserved. New York: Baker & Scribner. Boston: Waite, Pierce & Co.

LILLA HART: A Tale of New York, by Charles Burdett, is a life-like sketch of character and scenes in New York, by one whose natural qualifications and whose occupation as a reporter to the press, have given him peculiar facility in drawing moral pictures. The little volume before us is an affecting exhibition of the connection established by God, and so fully illustrated by Providence, between crime and retribution, and is designed to show that pardon is never denied to the most guilty sinner, if sought in the proper spirit of penitence, and by faith in Christ. Mr. Burdett is doing well in giving such a work to the public. New York and Boston: published and for sale as above.

DROPS FROM FLORA'S CUP, or the Poetry of Flowers, with a Floral Vocabulary, by Miss Mary M. Griffin, is the title of a little volume sparkling with poetic gems, well selected, beautifully printed and engraved.—Among the names of those who are made to contribute to its pages, we observe those of Mrs. Barbud, Mr. Wordsworth, Mrs. Sigourney, Mrs. Hemans, and others. Boston: Published and for sale by O. L. Perkins.

THE AMERICAN PULPIT, for March, has a sermon by Rev. Samuel B. Swain, pastor of the First Baptist church in Worcester, on *Perseverance of Human Life* from the text, 'Thou shalt not kill.' The Christian Citizen, edited by Eliza Burritt, says of this sermon: 'It is beautifully and eloquently written, and may be considered one of the most powerful appeals that the American Pulpit ever uttered in behalf of peace, and one of the strongest arguments against war.' As a timely and vigorous discourse, we make the following extracts: 'The first relates to

Patrons have bled
And in the cause died nobly.'

But to die for one's country is not the same precisely as to kill for it. The one is like the lamb led to the slaughter, the other is to play the 'tiger.' Yet allowing if we may, that destroying human lives, when the only alternative to save human lives, which may have a better right to continue, be genuine patriotism, how many of such cases would the magician bear? not the sword in vain he could obtain redress without periling his own life. But his wrath has been stirred up by an offence so trivial, that statute law, wise and discriminate in all things else, cannot define it. His honor has been wounded, that capricious—shadowy non-descript scarcely known as an entity, never a virtue, only in his own imagination; yet this high attribute of his human has been sinned against so wickedly, that no reparation defined in a Christian dialect is admissible. The only satisfaction which can avail is the privilege of mutual butchery. He has not been injured, but insulted, and

'For a word, a look, a gesture deemed
Not precisely exact in all its parts.'

For double murder armed, his own & his

that he was of

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BOSTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1846.

EDITORIAL LETTERS FROM THE WEST IN-

DIES.—NO. VI.

The Virgin Islands—their beauty and climate.—Want of contrast, and its effect.—Equable temperature.—Ideal of cold and warm.—Rain and dew.—Hurricanes and earthquakes.—Population of St. Thomas.—Trade—Banks.—Character of the citizens.—Pleasant acquisitions.—Mr. Nellis—Passage to St. Croix.—Passports.—West End Packet.

The islands which bound the Caribbean Sea, in a continuous range on the east, are called the Windward Isles, and the particular group to which St. Thomas belongs is distinguished by the name of the Virgin Isles. Some of them are small and uninhabited, but the larger ones have long been the favorite resorts of invalids and the subjects of unbounded admiration and eulogistic praise. They are admired for their beauty, and praised for their climate; the one being perennial and the other incomparably subluous. The fields are green and fragrant at all seasons of the year; blossoms and ripe fruits hang on the trees simultaneously; and the magnificent scenery of hills and dales, robed in verdure of diverse but ever-living hues, awaken new feelings in the visitor who comes from a land where winter reigns *Transuersa oceani per conquisiterem.*

He has not, as have the natives of the isles, looked on this attractive scene and beheld no contrast to it, from his earliest being. He can therefore hardly be aware how much he is indebted to the scenery of other lands for his pleasure in surveying this. Even those who come hither from Europe and America, to reside permanently in the tropics, very soon lose those pleasurable and exciting sensations which the opening of Spring awakens at the North, in every susceptible bosom. The shaded avenues, the flowery gardens, and the verdant lawns, of these lands that never fade, seem in a little time far less refreshing, inviting and beautiful than the summer scenery of 'home'; and the wanderer sighs for the more bracing air, the better culture, the purer streams, and the choicer productions of his native land. But the hundreds and thousands who are suffering from pulmonary weakness or disease in the changeful and chilling climate of those otherwise better countries, would find, in the climate of these evergreen isles, ample remedy for all the sacrifices of scenery or sensation, and, I think I may add, of enjoyments or privileges, which a change of residence would require them to make.

For successive weeks, from my arrival here on the 1st of February, every morning has been bright and beautiful as the fairest day of June in New England,—not one oppressively hot—not one uncomfortably cold. The bland atmosphere has ordinarily assumed the character of a gentle, refreshing breeze, which invites the invalid, even the weak and coughing hectic, to a walk or ride in the open air; and it is not an invitation which it will be dangerous to accept. At sunrise the mercury stands perhaps at 78; and at mid-day it may have risen to 82 or 84. At no time is the air so oppressively hot as it is often with us in summer; the mercury has risen in Boston to 98. At the same time it never, here, falls below 68 which is ten degrees above 'temperate,' and 20 above 'freezing point.' It ranges at noon-day throughout the whole year, from 76 to 90.

The people here often talk about being cold or warm, as if they actually comprehended the meaning of the terms; but it is impossible, even for a New Englander, to form a conception here of what he has often realized at home. All my them with the atmosphere and scenery of the summer months. I can call to mind the storms of February and the winds of cold and blustering March, but I can have no distinct realization of them, where no sound is heard, nor an object seen, nor a sensation felt, that bears the slightest resemblance or awakens the remotest recollection of those unpleasant months.

Very little rain falls in these islands during the first six months of the year, but heavy dews descend at night, by which the verdure of the fields is preserved, and the evils of a drought prevented. The hurricanes occur chiefly in the months of August, September and October. These are said to be less frequent in late years, but no destructive earthquake has occurred since Guadalupe was destroyed, and all the windward islands tottered and trembled above the agitation of elements that heaved beneath the foundations of the sea.

The population of St. Thomas is about 8,000, of which 1,500 are free negroes and 4,500 are slaves. I am told that the slaves of these islands have some important advantages secured to them by the government, and by long established custom, which they do not enjoy in the United States. But on this point I shall be better prepared to give information after visiting the plantations of St. Croix. Many of the islands, however, belong to Great Britain, and in all those, as our readers are aware slavery has been abolished. The merchants of this town are natives of different countries, and traffic in the commodities of every land. Their sales are chiefly to the dealers and planters of the surrounding islands and of the northern countries of South America. Between St. Thomas and the ports of Venezuela and Guiana, there is constant intercourse, and the exchanges are as important as they are frequent. The larger houses are rarely surpassed for extent and capaciousness; the proprietors of several are said to be millionaires. There are two Banks in the place, one of which is the Colonial Bank of England, and the other the Bank of St. Thomas, its capital of \$— being the property of resident merchants. In the erection and furnishing of houses there is less show and expense than in Boston and New York, but the dinners of the merchants which are eaten after the business of the day is over and the stores are closed, are generally sumptuous feasts. Wines of divers sorts and names, but chiefly claret, are drunk, and, as the drinkers maintain, not only with impunity but with benefit. Without doubt the climate permits persons in good health, to drink the lighter wines, which are chiefly used, with less injury than would follow the same habits among us. Invalids, however, do much better entirely to avoid them, and the fact doubtless renders their utility still, at least extremely doubtful.

The citizens are hospitable, fond of society, and refined in their manners. Many of them have been educated in Europe, to whose schools and universities the children of the wealthy are sent to be 'finished' in a course extending, often, through eight or ten years. Among the more intelligent and respectable are those who fear God, keep holy the Sabbath day, and practise the duties of religion, but such, I am compelled to fear, are comparatively few. The standard of morals is low, and persons are ranked in the first class, and admitted to respectable society, whose notoriously loose principles and still lower conduct, would certainly exclude from the refined circles of the metropolis of New England.

I must conclude my observations in St. Thomas, as having purpose to pass the larger portion of my term of absence in St. Croix, a pleasanter resort for invalids, some 40 miles distant. I have received the kindest attention from many gentlemen and families here, by which my happiness has been promoted, and my spirits often refreshed and

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chart nor rudder? How must he be driven and dashed who consults not reverently
The book divine
By inspiration given?

How much instruction comes to the people of God, as they ponder it, from such a history. How subtle, how deep, the poison of Rome, and of all false religion. And in the light shed from it, how increasingly important is seen to be the mission of Baptists.

WAS THERE A REASON?

A man was yesterday seen to be irritated and in a passion. We understood from some one standing by, that he was a professing Christian—a member of — church. Was there a reason for such a manifestation? we could not help inquiring of ourselves. Did he take into view the sad consequences of his example on others, in thus easily giving way to irascibility? Such exhibitions with him, for ought that we know, may be frequent. Is there a reason for them? We do not ask whether his religion could meanwhile have been in exercise, but whether in such a display, he could have been calm and rational?

Two individuals, church members it may be, or ministers, become alienated. There grows up between them some imaginary dislike.—Their minds are embittered with prejudice and they speak loosely; it is well if it is not disparagingly, of each other. We ask ourselves, can there be a reason? Has this really been at all exercised?

Fault was a short time ago found with the minister of the parish. We did not fully understand what it was. He is, we are told, not a perfect man; but a worthy man, labors indefatigably, and preaches a pure gospel. And yet there was an open finding of fault with him. It is questionable whether true prayer had ever been offered that his supposed deficiencies might be corrected. God, who makes, can surely mend his ministers, if need be. This we suspect had never been sought, and it may have been, that alleged defects were after all no defects at all. They may have been upon the vision of the captious beholder, rather than on his minister. As, therefore, fault was in such a case found, we could not help turning away to set ourselves in the right? Was there any?

How many persons wearing the Christian name, are not even reasonable, not to say religious. They are more affected by prejudice and mere caprice than by the sober dictates of what is rational.

But is not this a sin, and will not God, whose character is at an infinite remove from us, judge us for such misconduct? And yet men do not always consider that, for actions passionate, prejudiced, whimsical, they will be held accountable. They restrict the sphere of accountability to what is flagrant and outrageous, forgetting that to act unreasonably under whatever circumstances, or in whatever relations, is to incur guilt.

REVIVAL IN HAMILTON, AND IN THE INSTI-

TUTION.

TWO MEN SECURED FOR ARRACAN.

The following letter to the N. Y. Baptist Register, dated March 17, thus describes the revival at Hamilton and in the Institution. It is truly glorious.

The town at the 'West End' of St. Croix is the more frequent resort of invalids, being considered most healthy and pleasant; and thither I engaged a passage by the schooner called 'West End Packet.' It usually goes back and forth to the direction in me which: — is a very fine mine at seven o'clock in the evening, had a good bath in a pleasant little cabin, and awoke, as morning dawned, in the harbor of Frederiksted, St. Croix. For fellow passengers we had two travelling Englishmen and two American captains, whose freedom in conversation made the evening doubly pleasant, while we inhaled the blankest and most refreshing summer breeze, and passed, each his evening with a pleasant little cabin, and awoke, as morning dawned, in the harbor of Frederiksted, St. Croix. 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REV. JOHN MITCHELL.

Died, at Atchboro, March 14, Rev. John Mitchell, pastor of the Baptist Church in Hoosick, N. Y., aged 32. Bro. Mitchell came to this country from England about 17 years ago, and first settled in the town of Danbury Conn., where he remained not far from four years. During this period he became more extensively and favorably known, and his services were brought into more general demand. Previous to leaving England he received various flattering invitations to more inviting fields of labor, among which was one which he finally accepted from the city of New York where he became the pastor of the Cannon St. Bap. church, with which he continued several years. His labors in the city were highly appreciated by the pastors and churches, and his final removal was the occasion of much regret. Urged by several influential brethren, among whom was Dr. Goings, and by his own sense of duty, he removed from N. York to Michigan, where he became a successful pioneer of the Baptist church. He was a man to exert an extensive and salutary influence among the infant churches of that State, and it is doubtless in a great measure to his instrumentality that the present commendable efficiency of the Michigan Baptists is to be attributed, being one of the originators of the Michigan Baptist Convention.—

The above is a summary of the life of Rev. John Mitchell, to be wished that it may remain, it is the fault of the false and untrue.

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